

# LO!

*BEHOLD: THE MYSTERIOUS, THE WONDERMENT OF THE WORLD.*

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**THE BLUE LADY OF MOSS BEACH:** The Moss Beach Distillery in Northern California is well known for its trio of tragic, but romantic ghosts. Recently, the popular NBC TV series, "Unsolved Mysteries" recreated a haunting version of "The Legend of the Blue Lady" and presented it to the world. Now, visitors come from everywhere, hoping to catch a glimpse of some elusive spirit, or at least to feel their presence. According to the ghostly Coastside legend, some 70 years ago a beautiful, young woman met, by chance, a handsome, dangerous man and fell passionately in love with him. This sophisticated ladies' man was, say some, a piano player in the local bar. The naive young woman, always dressed in blue, was already married to another but her unsuspecting husband and young son never knew of the illicit affair. The two lovers met for romantic moonlight walks on the beach or secret rendezvous at the Marine View Beach Hotel (now gone) next to the Distillery. Their passionate trysts continued for months as they watched the beautiful sunsets over the Pacific or played hide and seek in the shifting, swirling fog.

It was during a terrible November storm that tragedy struck. The beautiful lady in blue died in a violent automobile accident on the Bayshore Highway. She had planned to meet her lover late that week at their favorite spot. It is there you will find her, dressed in blue, wandering aimlessly along the beach, searching hopelessly for him. People say they have heard her as she calls softly to small children, warning them to stay away from the cliffs, perhaps hoping to atone to her own small son.

The Blue Lady, unaware her lover was having another affair at the same time, died, never suspecting his treachery. However, the second woman discovered his betrayal and flung herself off the cliffs to the ocean, drowning in the beds of kelp and seaweed among the creatures of the sea. Her ghost, it is said, appears dripping wet, covered with slime and seaweed. Source: The Distillery Times, Oct. 1995.

**COMMUTING PIGEONS?:** Pigeons in London have been observed hopping on "the tube" and getting around the capital by underground in a seemingly organized fashion. The findings came after the New Scientist asked readers to write if they had observed any commuting pigeons. A page full of letters to the journal's current edition indicated the birds not only knew where they were going, but unlike some foot-bound commuters, knew which lines to take and at what stations to get off. "A pigeon, calm a you please, hopped on my Northern Line carriage at King's Cross and stood quite calmly near the door," wrote Lorna Read. "It appeared to know where it was going as soon as the doors opened at Euston, where it flew out." Source: Earthweek, Oct. '95.

*THE INTELLECTUAL NEWSLETTER THAT CHALLENGES THE MIND.*

**GIANT SEA WAVES:** Ocean waves that towered 100 feet - the highest ever observed in the North Atlantic - formed during two East Coast winter storms in recent years, leaving scientists wondering if storms there are becoming more intense because of long-term climate changes. The waves formed about 200 miles south of Nova Scotia during a nor'easter that raced up the East Coast around Halloween of 1991, according to Vincent Cardone, a meteorologist and president of Oceanweather Inc., a Cos Cob, Conn., consulting firm.

And while scientists considered whether those waves were the real deal or an aberration, similar 100-foot waves developed in the same area in 1993 during the nor'easter dubbed "The Storm of the Century."

The monster waves were almost twice as high as those typically seen in a hurricane, and, Cardone said, were as much as 50 percent larger than so-called 100-year waves.

Using storm records going back about three decades, ocean scientists such as Cardone had previously determined that 100-year waves should be no higher than about 72 feet.

"Never did we think this (the sighting of 100-foot waves) could happen off the East Coast of the United States," Cardone said. "So what's going on here?"

The 100-foot wave heights were recorded by one of a series of ocean buoys put in place by Canada off the Canadian coast beginning around 1990.

Source: The Atlanta Journal, May 7, 1995.

**COSMIC RAY MYSTERY:** A mysterious force hurling particles at the Earth with an energy so intense as to defy known physics has brought scientists from around the world to Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago to plot a counterattack. So far, scientists have gotten good information on only two of the ultrahigh-energy cosmic rays.

Led by James Cronin, the University of Chicago Nobel laureate physicist, cosmic ray researchers hope to assemble a grid of ray detectors that would cover an area the size of Delaware. The two known rays, measured by scientists in Japan and Utah, are charged with energies 100 million times greater than those produced at the Fermi accelerator, which is the world's most powerful. Scientists say even an explosion of the largest stars couldn't produce particles of such energy, according to the laws of physics as they are now understood. Source: COUD-I, Vol.2, No. 2.

**ANOTHER ARKANSAS GHOST LIGHT:** Just north and slightly west of the Clark County town of Gurdon, a portion of the tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad has served as a setting for a mysterious and unexplained luminous apparition. Seen by hundreds of people since 1931, this strange pulsating light is believed to be the ghost of a long-dead railroad employee doomed to walk the tracks forever.

Gurdon, boasting a population of about 2,200, began as a railroad town. Around midnight on a day in December 1931, railroad section foreman Will McClain fired worker Lewis McBride, accusing him of negligence and blaming his careless work for the derailment of a train. After turning away and walking up the track, McClain was followed by McBride, who tearfully begged to be able to keep his job. When McClain refused to talk to him,

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McBride hoisted the shovel he carried and brought it down on McClain's head, knocking him to the tracks. Bleeding heavily from a head wound, McClain struggled to his feet, and alternately running and staggering, fled from McBride along the railroad bed. Moments later, McBride caught up with McClain, knocked him down, and, finding a spike hammer lying nearby, killed him with it.

McClain was found the following morning after several railroad workers followed his blood trail. McBride eventually confessed to the killing and was executed at Cummins Prison in February 1932.

Not long after McBride was executed, Gurdon residents began reporting a mysterious light which appeared at irregular intervals about three feet above the track at a point where McClain was killed. According to local lore, it was the ghost of the dead section foreman.

The Gurdon Light has mystified people for decades. Though a number of explanations have been advanced (swamp gas, automobile headlights, quartz deposits), all have been dismissed after extensive scientific investigations. The Gurdon Light sometimes fades in and out, sometimes it changes and sometimes it appears to be revolving. Rarely visible for more than 10 seconds at a time, it will often disappear when one walks toward it only to re-appear 10 feet behind!

In recent years, the Gurdon Light has been captured on film a number of times. After careful analysis of the glowing images, experts remain confused as to what is causing them. While the investigators are perplexed, the locals are convinced it is a ghost.

During the 1970s, a railroad worker, standing on the rear deck of a caboose, watched the Gurdon Light as it followed the slow moving train for about 100 yards. At one point, the light veered away from the tracks and entered a graveyard only to disappear over one particular headstone.

After reporting the incident, the worker, accompanied by his supervisor and several curious townspeople, walked to the graveyard. On approaching the cemetery, the railroad worker pointed to the marker where he had last seen the light. One of the Gurdon citizens walked over to it and read the name on the face of the headstone.

It was Will McClain!

Source: W.C. Jameson, Conway, AR Log Cabin Democrat, August 21, 1995.

**NEW YORK STATE KANGAROO:** What's up with the Webster kangaroo?

It seems the marsupial that was spotted leaping around has said its last "g'day mate" to the residents of this lakeside town.

Since two residents reported seeing a kangaroo bounce around their yards July 6 and 7, police have received a few more calls from residents who also claim to have seen a kangaroo. But no leads have panned out, said Lt. Robert Steinorth of the Webster Police Department.

"There was a lot of talk about it in the beginning," Steinorth said. "It used to be you couldn't go anywhere without being questioned if we caught it." But now, besides an appearance in the parade during the annual Fireman's Carnival, no town officials have seen the cruising kangaroo.

Actually, that was a guy in a suit at the parade. The "real" kangaroo apparently has made its way somewhere else.

Steinorth said the reported marsupial probably was a young deer who was hopping about on its hind legs because its front legs were injured. Still, Carol Catalino of 607 Bay Road, who issued the first sighting on July 6, swears it was a kangaroo standing about eight feet away from her when she went out to get her mail.

A day later, Margaret Casciano reported seeing a kangaroo in her yard at 208 Shorewood Drive.

Catalino said she knows it wasn't a deer, which also frequent her yard. "I made eye contact with this thing and my brain was becoming like a computer. 'What is this thing?' I finally shouted it out, 'It's a kangaroo,'" she said.

Catalino, who takes care of children in her home, said she and the children went to her back yard and saw the kangaroo from behind, spotting its long, thick brown-cream-colored tail.

"That's when I really knew it was a kangaroo," she said. "We just watched it bound away."

An Australian friend who lives in Webster gave Catalino a kangaroo crossing sign from Australia. The triangular yellow-and-black sign reads "Next 8km" under a picture of a kangaroo.

Catalino said she didn't think it odd that she was face-to-face with a kangaroo. She just assumed it had escaped from a traveling zoo, fun camp or someone who hadn't registered the animal.

"I haven't seen it again, not even in my dreams," she laughed.

And although she has a wooden kangaroo plaque on her front door that her husband, David, bought for her at the Corn Hill Arts Festival, Catalino isn't sure whether she'll put the kangaroo crossing sign outside her door. Her 15 minutes of fame are over, she said, except that some strangers still drive by and ask her if she's seen any more kangaroos.

Does she mind the notoriety that came with being a kangaroo spotter?

"I'm not sure if I like it or not," she said.

Source: Mary E. McCrank, Rochester Times-Union, August 1, 1995.

**WASHINGTON BIGFOOT REPORTED:** A man who frequently has claimed to have encounters with Bigfoot says this time he's got witnesses.

Paul Freeman, a former U.S. Forest Service employee, said he and two other men saw a tall, hairy creature August 5th in the Blue Mountains, about 25 miles east of Walla Walla in the Mill Creek watershed.

Freeman, who claims to have spotted a similar creature four other times, brought back part of a tree he says Bigfoot twisted, some hair samples and two plaster footprint molds.

He will send the molds and some hair to Grover Krantz, an anthropology professor at Washington State University who has investigated Bigfoot claims.

Freeman went on the expedition with Walla Walla resident Wes Sumerlin and former state Game Department employee Bill Laughery.

The trio said they first spotted signs of the creature's presence: a strong odor, small twisted trees with clumps of long black hair and large footprints, 15 inches long and 7 inches wide.

Then, through the dense timber, they saw Bigfoot, almost 8 feet tall and a hairy tan-brown, Laughery said.

Although they had still and video cameras, the three said they were unable to capture the creature's likeness because of lack of light in the dense timber.

Source: Seattle Post-Intelligencer, August 9, 1995.

**NEW SEARCH FOR BIGFOOT:** The world's only government-sanctioned search party for "Bigfoot" is gearing up for a new survey that will link high-tech aerial equipment with observers on the ground. Earlier searches this summer spearheaded by Wang Fangchen, of the 30-strong team from China's Committee for Research into Strange and Rare animals, failed. While residents in Hubei Province have reported 114 sightings and collected hair and footprints from the "Abominable Snowman" during the past 40 years, no such evidence was found by the team. They will now deploy balloons equipped with infrared-sensing instruments 2,000 feet above the forest.

Source: The Cleveland Plain Dealer, August 20, 1995.